

MEDIA ADVISORY

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LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORERS TO HOLD NATIONAL CONFERENCE

4,000 youths will travel to Flagstaff, Ariz. to take part in criminal justice and policing activities

Phoenix, AZ – 4,000 Law Enforcement Explorers representing all 50 states will travel to Flagstaff, Ariz. July 10-15th to take part in the group's 15th biennial national conference.

The week-long conference will take place on the campus of Northern Arizona University and will feature several team competitions including arrest and search techniques, crime scene investigation, bomb threat response, and hostage negotiations. Seminars on gang violence, psychological profiling, effective communication, narcotics trafficking and interdiction, and border protection are also planned.

"Exploring offers 14-20 year olds the opportunity to work with dedicated law enforcement professionals throughout their formative years. It's the kind of program that really makes a difference for young people in our communities. We at DEA are proud of our association with the Explorers and are committed to making this year's Conference the best yet," stated DEA Phoenix Special-Agent-in-Charge Timothy J. Landrum, a former Explorer.

Law Enforcement Exploring, founded in 1973, is a worksite-based program for young men and women who plan to pursue careers in law enforcement. Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. For young men and women who are interested in careers in the field of law enforcement, Exploring offers experiential learning with practical, real and, meaningful hands-on activities that promote the growth and development of adolescent youth.

High-ranking officials from the ATF, FBI, DEA, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Marshals Service and Secret Service will take part in the conference including Mr. Roger Vanderpool, Director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, who will serve as this year's chairman.

Media interested in covering any portion of the Conference should contact DEA Phoenix Public Information Officer Ramona Sanchez at (602) 664-5725 or David Ausiello (DEA Public Affairs) at (202) 307-5196